

JUL 1 1955

The Honorable Carl Vinson
Chairman
House Armed Services Committee
House of Representatives
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The Senate has now completed action on H.R. 6829, the Military Construction Bill, Title IV of which contains authorization for the construction of a headquarters installation for the Central Intelligence Agency. As you know, the House previously passed H.R. 6829, Title V of which contained a similar authorization. However, there are certain differences between the Senate and House versions of these two Titles concerning which I should like to express my views prior to the conference between the House and the Senate on these Bills.

As I advised you in my letter of 15 June 1955, and as I testified before your Committee, one of the possible locations which we are considering for our headquarters installation is the Government-owned land at the Research Station of the Bureau of Public Roads at Langley, Fairfax County, Virginia. This site, however, would not be feasible without the extension of the George Washington Memorial Parkway from its present terminus near Spout Run to the Bureau of Public Roads property ...a distance of approximately seven miles.

The Senate version of this Bill would authorize \$8,500,000 to be available for transfer to the National Capital Planning Commission and the Department of the Interior for acquisition of land for and construction to extend the George Washington Memorial Parkway to the Langley site, this amount to be available only if the Langley site were finally selected. We appreciate the Senate's favorable consideration of our request in this regard and hope that the House will see fit to adopt it also.

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The Senate version would likewise reduce the \$6,000,000 originally requested for the acquisition of land for a site to \$1,000,000. Our original request was made in order to provide for the possibility of constructing our headquarters installation within the District of Columbia. It is now apparent that both your Committee and the Senate Armed Services Committee would prefer that we construct our headquarters outside of the District proper, which is entirely agreeable. Accordingly, I concur in this reduction. Of course, if we were to locate on the Government property at Langley we would not expend any part of the \$1,000,000 authorized for the acquisition of land for a site. However, there is an apparent technical error in Section 502(4) of the Senate version of the Military Construction Bill in that a total of \$53,500,000 would be authorized, whereas in order to provide for the \$1,000,000 for site acquisition, which will be necessary if we do not locate at Langley, this total should be \$54,500,000. We have pointed this out to Chairman Stennis and I attach a copy of our letter to him in this regard.

The Senate Committee has also approved of language directing the Administrator of the General Services Administration to demolish so-called temporary buildings containing space equivalent to that which would be released by the Central Intelligence Agency when it moves into its new headquarters. We, of course, have no objection this proviso.

There is one principal point which concerns me greatly. The Senate version would reduce the sum to be made available for the construction of the headquarters installation itself from \$50,000,000 to \$45,000,000. I have written to Senator Stennis, the Subcommittee Chairman, of my serious concern about this reduction inasmuch as we have made every effort to present a realistic estimate of our cost and feel that the construction of our building might be jeopardized seriously if less than the \$50,000,000 requested for this purpose were finally authorized. I am also attaching a copy of my letter to Senator Stennis in this regard.

I wish to assure you that it is my desire to construct for this Agency a nonmonumental headquarters building with the highest possible utility at the lowest cost to the Government. As a result of the studies which we have made and the procedures followed in arriving at our estimate of \$50,000,000, I feel strongly that we would not have the flexibility to meet our requirements if this amount were reduced.

I sincerely hope that the House-Senate conferees can agree to provide for the extension of the George Washington Memorial Parkway if Langley is finally selected as a site, that the apparent technical error in Section 502(4) of the Senate version involving \$1,000,000 can be corrected, and, above all, that the full amount of \$50,000,000 requested

for actual construction can be approved.

I greatly appreciate your assistance in this whole matter and your continued interest in the Central Intelligence Agency.

Sincerely yours,

/s/

Allen W. Dulles
Director

3 Att.

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